Decrease in female foeticides

†2054. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been decline in number of cases of female foeticides after framing of stern rules and laws;

(b) if so, the figures of the last three years, State-wise and year-wise in this regard;

(c) the names of the States where most cases of female foeticides are being committed and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether rules and laws made in this regard have been effective; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) Sex ratio in India has declined over the century from 972 in 1901 to 927 in 1991. The sex ratio has since gone up to 933 in 2001. In contrast the **child sex ratio** for the age group of 0-6 years in 2001 is **927** girls per thousand boys against 945 recorded in 1991 Census. The Census 2001 figures further reveal that the child sex ratio is comparatively lower in the affluent regions. i.e. Punjab (798), Haryana (819), Chandigarh (845), Delhi (868), Gujarat (883) and Himachal Pradesh (896), State/UT-wise Sex ratio and Child Sex ratio as per 1991 and 2001 Census is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(d) to (e) The Pre-conception And Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques Act has been enacted to pre-ambit the use of such technologies, which significantly contribute to decline in sex ratio. Use of ultrasound machines has also been brought within the purview of the Act more explicitly so as to curb their misuse for detection and disclosure of sex of the foetus lest it should lead to female foeticide.

* The Central Supervisory Board (CSB)constituted under the Chairmanship of Minister for Health and Family Welfare has been empowered for monitoring the implementation of the Act.

* State level Supervisory Boards in the line of the CSB constituted at the Centre has been introduced for monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the Act in States/UTs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

* The State/UT level Appropriate Authority, a multi-member body has been constituted for better implementation and monitoring of the Act in the States.
* More stringent punishments are prescribed under the Act so as to serve as a deterrent for minimizing violations of the Act. Appropriate Authorities are empowered with the powers of Civil Court for search, seizure and sealing the machines, equipments and records of the violators of law including sealing of premises and commissioning of witnesses.
* It has been made mandatory to maintain proper records in respect of the use of ultrasound machines and other equipments capable of detection of sex of foetus and also in respect of tests and procedures that may lead to pre-conception selection of sex.
* The sale of ultrasound machines has been regulated through laying down the condition of sale only to the bodies registered under the Act.
* There are 30587 number of units registered under the provisions of this Act. 58 machines have been seized/sealed under the Act as on 01 March 2007.
* All the States have constituted State Supervisory Board (SSB), except Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, D&N Haveli, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep where SSB is not required to be constituted as per the Act.
* State Appropriate Authorities and District Appropriate Authorities have been constituted by all States/UTs under the Act.

Statement

State/UT-wise Sex ratio and child ratio during 1991 & 2001

India and State/ Union Territory*	Sex ratio		Child sex ratio (0-6 Years)	
	1991	2001	1991	2001
1	2	3	4	5
INDIA	**927**	**933**	**945**	**927**
Jammu & Kashmir	896	892	NA	941
Himachal Pradesh	976	968	951	896
Punjab	882	876	875	798

1	2	3	4	5
Chandigarh*	790	777	899	845
Uttaranchal	936	962	948	908
Haryana	865	861	879	819
	827	821	915	868
Rajasthan	910	921	916	909
Uttar Pradesh	876	898	927	916
Bihar	907	919	953	942
Sikkim	878	875	965	963
Arunachal Pradesh	859	893	982	964
Nagaland	886	900	993	964
Manipur	958	978	974	957
Mizoram	921	935	969	964
Tripura	945	948	967	966
Meghalaya	955	972	986	973
Assam	923	935	975	965
West Bengal	917	934	967	960
Jharkhand	922	941	979	965
Orissa	971	972	967	953
Chhattisgarh	985	989	974	975
Madhya Pradesh	912	919	941	932
Gujarat	934	920	928	883
Daman & Diu*	969	710	958	926
Dadra & Nagar Haveli*	952	812	1013	979
Maharashtra	934	922	946	913
Andhra Pradesh	972	978	975	961
Karnataka	960	965	960	946
Goa	967	961	964	938
Lakshadweep*	943	948	941	959
Kerala	1,036	1,058	958	960
Tamil Nadu	974	987	948	942
Pondicherry*	979	1,001	963	967
Andaman & Nicobar Islands*	818	846	973	957

Source: Census 1991 & 2001,O/O Register General of India

*Union Territory